

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 854

To direct the Secretary of State to designate Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Qods Force as a foreign terrorist organization, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2013

Mr. McCaul introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of State to designate Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Qods Force as a foreign terrorist organization, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-  
2       tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the "Qods Force Terrorist  
5       Designation Act".

**6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

1                             (1) On January 19, 1984, the Secretary of  
2 State determined that the Islamic Republic of Iran  
3 is a state sponsor of terrorism.

4                             (2) The Qods Force is the elite external operations  
5 branch of the Iran's Islamic Revolutionary  
6 Guard Corps and the Iranian regime's primary  
7 mechanism for cultivating and supporting terrorists  
8 abroad.

9                             (3) The Qods Force provides aid in the form of  
10 weapons, training, and funding to Hamas and other  
11 Palestinian terrorist groups, Lebanese Hizballah,  
12 Iraq-based militants, and Taliban fighters in Af-  
13 ghanistan.

14                             (4) The Qods Force is behind some of the deadliest  
15 terrorist attacks of the past three decades, including  
16 the 1983 and 1984 bombings of the United  
17 States Embassy and annex in Beirut, the 1983  
18 bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut, the 1992  
19 bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires,  
20 1994 attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center  
21 in Buenos Aires, and the 1996 Khobar Towers  
22 bombing in Saudi Arabia.

23                             (5) In 2007, President George W. Bush and  
24 General David Petraeus, the top U.S. commander in

1 Iraq, accused Iran’s Qods Force of aiding militias in  
2 killing American soldiers in Iraq.

3 (6) In 2007, the U.S. Department of the Treasury  
4 designated the Qods Force for providing material support to the Taliban and other terrorist organizations.

5 (7) On October 25, 2007, Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Qods Force was sanctioned under Executive Order 13382, for supporting proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

6 (8) Section 1258 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 expressed the sense of Congress that “the United States should designate Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189) and place the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps on the list of Specially Designated Global Terrorists, as established under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and initiated under Executive Order 13224 (September 23, 2001)”.

7 (9) In the period following the June 2009 presidential election in Iran, the Qods Force was implicated in custodial deaths and the killings of election

1       protesters and committed other acts of politically  
2       motivated violence, including torture, beatings, and  
3       rape.

4                 (10) On April 29, 2011, President Obama  
5       issued Executive Order 13572, Blocking Property of  
6       Certain Persons With Respect to Human Rights  
7       Abuses in Syria, including the Qods Force, for the  
8       repression of the people of Syria, manifested most  
9       recently by the use of violence and torture against,  
10      and arbitrary arrests and detentions of, peaceful  
11      protestors by police, security forces, and other enti-  
12      ties that have engaged in human rights abuses,  
13      which constitute an unusual and extraordinary  
14      threat to the national security, foreign policy, and  
15      economy of the United States.

16                 (11) On October 11, 2011, the U.S. Depart-  
17      ment of Justice announced that two members of  
18      Iran's Qods Force were charged in an alleged plot  
19      to assassinate the Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the  
20      United States. The criminal complaint against them  
21      included charges of conspiracy to murder a foreign  
22      official; conspiracy to engage in foreign travel and  
23      use of interstate and foreign commerce facilities in  
24      the commission of murder-for-hire; conspiracy to use  
25      a weapon of mass destruction (explosives); and con-

1 conspiracy to commit an act of international terrorism  
2 transcending national boundaries.

(13) Iran's Qods Force stations operatives in foreign embassies, charities, and religious and cultural institutions to foster relationships, often building on existing socio-economic ties with the well-established Shia Diaspora, and recent years have witnessed an increased presence in Latin America.

14 SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF IRAN'S ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY  
15 GUARD CORPS QODS FORCE AS A FOREIGN  
16 TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

17 The Secretary of State shall designate Iran's Islamic  
18 Revolutionary Guard Corps Qods Force as a foreign ter-  
19 rorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration  
20 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

## 21 SEC. 4. REPORT.

22 The Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee  
23 on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and  
24 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a re-

1 port on terrorist activities of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary  
2 Guard Corps Qods Force.

